

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An air freshener comprising:

5 a circuit having at least one light emitting diode and at least one resistor wherein said at least one resistor is disposed in a heating block;

electrical connectors coupled to said circuit to receive current from a power source and to provide said current to said circuit;

10 a container for holding a substance to be heated;

wherein said at least one resistor heats said heating block so as to heat said substance held by said container thereby accelerating the emission of an aroma associated with said substance and wherein said at least one resistor also limits said current
15 provided to said at least one light emitting diode.

2. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said power source provides alternating current and wherein said circuit further comprises a rectifier.

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3. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said power source provides alternating current and wherein said circuit further

comprises a shunt diode connected in parallel with said at least one light emitting diode and in series with said at least one resistor.

4. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said heating block is comprised of a ceramic material.

5. The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:
a decorative shield illuminated by said at least one light emitting diode.

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6. The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:
at least one fiber optic cable wherein said at least one fiber optic cable is coupled to said at least one light emitting diode.

15 7. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said circuit further includes a thermal fuse.

8. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said circuit further includes an electrical fuse.

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9. The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein said container is translucent.

10. The device in accordance with claim 9 wherein said container is illuminated by said at least one light emitting diode.

11. The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:

5 a wick inserted into said container wherein one end of said wick protrudes from said container.

12. The device in accordance with claim 11 wherein said one end of said wick that protrudes from said container is held by said heating

10 block.

13. The device in accordance with claim 1 further comprising:

a housing for holding said circuit wherein said housing also comprises a socket for holding said container.

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14. The device in accordance with claim 13 further comprising:

a decorative shield coupled to said housing.

15. The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein said decorative

20 shield is illuminated by said at least one light emitting diode.

16. The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein said decorative shield is a flower-shaped structure.

17. The device in accordance with claim 14 wherein said decorative shield depicts at least one flower.

5 18. The device in accordance with claim 13 wherein said housing further includes at least one dome and at least one vent to facilitate release of said aroma and to facilitate emission of light generated by said at least one light emitting diode.

10 19. A method for efficiently combining nightlight and air freshener capabilities in a single decorative device comprising the steps of:

receiving current from a power source;

providing said current to a circuit including a resistor and at least one light emitting diode wherein said resistor limits said
15 current provided to said at least one light emitting diode and wherein said resistor further heats a heating block; and

wherein said heating block heats an aromatic to motivate the release of an aroma.

20 20. A method according to claim 19 wherein said current is alternating current and said circuit further includes a rectifier.

21. A method according to claim 19 wherein said current is alternating current and said circuit further includes a shunt diode connected in parallel with said at least one light emitting diode and in series with said resistor.

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22. A method according to claim 19 wherein said heating block is a ceramic block.

23. A method according to claim 19 further comprising the step of:

10 illuminating at least one fiber optic cable by coupling said at least one fiber optic cable to said at least one light emitting diode.

24. A method according to claim 19 wherein said heating block heats

15 said aromatic using conduction.

25. A method according to claim 19 wherein said heating block heats said aromatic using convection.

20 26. A method according to claim 19 wherein said heating block heats said aromatic using radiation.

27. A method according to claim 19 further comprising the step of:
utilizing said at least one light emitting diode to illuminate
a decorative shield.

5 28. A method according to claim 27 wherein said decorative shield
depicts at least one flower.

29. A method according to claim 27 wherein said decorative shield
is a flower-like structure.

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30. A method according to claim 19 wherein said aromatic is
comprised of a hydrocarbon.

31. A method according to claim 30 wherein said hydrocarbon is a
15 scented liquid.

32. A method according to claim 31 further comprising the step of:
holding said scented liquid in a container.

20 33. A method according to claim 32 wherein said container is
translucent.

34. A method according to claim 33 further comprising the step of:
illuminating said container using light emitted from said at
least one light emitting diode.

5 35. A method according to claim 32 wherein said container also
comprises a wick wherein one end of said wick protrudes from said
container.

36. A method according to claim 35 wherein said one end of said
10 wick that protrudes from said container is held by said heating
block.

37. An air freshener comprising:

a circuit having at least one light emitting diode, at least
15 one resistor disposed in a heating block and a rectifier;

electrical connectors coupled to said circuit to receive
alternating current from a power source and to provide said
alternating current to said rectifier wherein said rectifier
provides rectified alternating current to said at least one light
20 emitting diode and to said at least one resistor;

a container for holding a scented oil to be heated;

a wick inserted into said container wherein one end of said
wick protrudes from said container;

a housing for holding said circuit wherein said housing also comprises a socket for holding said container and said wick;

wherein said at least one resistor heats said heating block and said wick so as to heat said scented oil held by said container thereby accelerating the emission of an aroma and wherein said at least one resistor also limits said rectified alternating current provided to said at least one light emitting diode wherein said at least one light emitting diode illuminates.

38. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said heating block comprises a ceramic material.

39. The device in accordance with claim 37 further comprising:

at least one fiber optic cable wherein said at least one fiber optic cable is coupled to said at least one light emitting diode.

40. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said circuit further includes a thermal fuse.

41. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said circuit further includes an electrical fuse.

42. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said housing further includes at least one dome and at least one vent to facilitate release of said aroma and to facilitate emission of light generated by said at least one light emitting diode.

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43. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said container further comprises a threaded neck and said socket of said housing is threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

10 44. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said container further comprises a reverse threaded neck and said socket of said housing is reverse threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

15 45. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said container is translucent.

46. The device in accordance with claim 45 wherein said container is illuminated by said at least one light emitting diode.

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47. The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein said rectifier is a full-wave bridge rectifier.

48. The device in accordance with claim 47 wherein said full-wave bridge rectifier includes four diodes.

49. The device in accordance with claim 37 further comprising:

5 a decorative shield coupled to said housing.

50. The device in accordance with claim 49 wherein said decorative shield is illuminated by said at least one light emitting diode.

10 51. The device in accordance with claim 49 wherein said decorative shield is flower-shaped.

52. The device in accordance with claim 49 wherein said decorative shield depicts at least one flower.

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53. An air freshener comprising:

a circuit having at least one light emitting diode, at least one resistor disposed in a heating block and a shunt diode wherein said shunt diode is connected in parallel with said at least one light emitting diode and in series with said at least one resistor;

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electrical connectors coupled to said circuit to receive alternating current from a power source and to provide said alternating current to said circuit;

a container for holding a scented oil to be heated;

a wick inserted into said container wherein one end of said wick protrudes from said container;

a housing for holding said circuit wherein said housing also
5 comprises a socket for holding said container and said wick;

wherein said at least one resistor heats said heating block and
said wick so as to heat said scented oil held by said container
thereby accelerating the emission of an aroma and wherein said at
least one resistor also limits said alternating current provided to
10 said at least one light emitting diode such that said at least one
light emitting diode illuminates.

54. The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said heating
block comprises a ceramic material.

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55. The device in accordance with claim 53 further comprising:

at least one fiber optic cable wherein said at least one fiber
optic cable is coupled to said at least one light emitting diode.

20 56. The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said circuit
further includes a thermal fuse.

57. The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said circuit further includes an electrical fuse.

58. The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said housing
5 further includes at least one dome and at least one vent to facilitate release of said aroma and to facilitate emission of light generated by said at least one light emitting diode.

59. The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said container
10 further comprises a threaded neck and said socket of said housing is threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

60. The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said container further comprises a reverse threaded neck and said socket of said
15 housing is reverse threaded so that said container can be screwed into said housing.

61. The device in accordance with claim 53 wherein said container is translucent.

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62. The device in accordance with claim 61 wherein said container is illuminated by said at least one light emitting diode.

63. The device in accordance with claim 53 further comprising:
a decorative shield coupled to said housing.

64. The device in accordance with claim 63 wherein said decorative
5 shield is illuminated by said at least one light emitting diode.

65. The device in accordance with claim 63 wherein said decorative
shield is flower shaped.

10 66. The device in accordance with claim 63 wherein said decorative
shield depicts at least one flower.